

WAR, TECHNOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY

Critical Interventions: A Forum for Social Analysis

General Editor: Bruce Kapferer

Volume 1

THE WORLD TRADE CENTER
AND GLOBAL CRISIS

Critical Perspectives

Edited by Bruce Kapferer

Volume 2

GLOBALIZATION

Critical Issues

Edited by Allen Chun

Volume 3

CORPORATE SCANDAL

Global Corporatism against Society

Edited by John Gledhill

Volume 4

EXPERT KNOWLEDGE

First World Peoples, Consultancy,
and Anthropology

*Edited by Barry Morris and
Rohan Bastin*

Volume 5

STATE, SOVEREIGNTY, WAR

Civil Violence in Emerging

Global Realities

Edited by Bruce Kapferer

Volume 6

THE RETREAT OF THE SOCIAL

The Rise and Rise of Reductionism

Edited by Bruce Kapferer

Volume 7

OLIGARCHS AND OLIGOPOLIES

New Formations of Global Power

Edited by Bruce Kapferer

Volume 8

NATIONALISM'S BLOODY TERRAIN

Racism, Class Inequality, and the

Politics of Recognition

Edited by George Baca

Volume 9

IDENTIFYING WITH FREEDOM

Indonesia after Suharto

Edited by Tony Day

Volume 10

THE GLOBAL IDEA OF 'THE

COMMONS'

Edited by Donald M. Nonini

Volume 11

SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

*Edited by John-Andrew McNeish
and Jon Harald Sande Lie*

Volume 12

MIGRATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND
TRANSNATIONALIZATION

A Critical Stance

*Edited by Nina Glick Schiller and
Thomas Faist*

Volume 13

WAR, TECHNOLOGY,

ANTHROPOLOGY

Edited by Koen Stroecken

WAR, TECHNOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY



Edited by
Koen Stroeken



Berghahn Books

NEW YORK • OXFORD

www.berghahnbooks.com

Paperback edition published in 2012 by

Berghahn Books

www.berghahnbooks.com

© 2012 Berghahn Books

All rights reserved.

Except for the quotation of short passages for the purposes of criticism and review, no part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system now known or to be invented, without written permission of the publisher.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the Library of Congress.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Printed in the United States on acid-free paper.

ISBN 978-0-85745-587-1 (pbk)

CONTENTS



Introduction: War-Technology Anthropology
Koen Stroeken

1

Part I: Perpetuating War

Drones in the Tribal Zone: Virtual War and Losing
Hearts and Minds in the Af-Pak War
Jeffrey A. Sluka

21

The Dead of Night: Chaos and Spectacide of
Nocturnal Combat in the Iraq War
Antonius C. G. M. Robben

34

World in a Bottle: Prognosticating Insurgency
in Iraq and Afghanistan
Roberto J. González

45

Anthropology As We Know It: A Casualty of War?
R. Brian Ferguson

62

Part II: Globalizing War

Games Without Tears, Wars Without Frontiers

Robertson Allen

83

Music, Aesthetics, and the Technologies of Online War

Matthew Sumera

94

Humanitarian Death and the Magic of Global War
in Uganda

Sverker Finnström

106

Resident Violence: Miner *Mwanga* Magic as a
War-Technology Anthropology

Koen Stroeken

120

The Magic of Martyrdom in Palestine and Cultural
Imaginarities for Killing

Neil L. Whitehead and Nasser Abufarha

135

Notes on Contributors

149